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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/043,770	01/08/2002	David E. Slobodin	20030/106:2	7899

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SCHWABE, WILLIAMSON & WYATT, P.C.
PACWEST CENTER, SUITE 1900
1211 SW FIFTH AVENUE
PORTLAND, OR 97204

EXAMINER

MATTIS, JASON E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2616

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	02/16/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/043,770

Applicant(s)

SLOBODIN ET AL.

Examiner

Jason E. Mattis

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 December 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 21-30 and 32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 21-30 and 32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to Amendment filed 12/5/06. Claim 31 has been cancelled. Claims 21-30 and 32.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 21-30 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Begis (U.S. Pat. 6907034 B1) in view of Morley et al. (U.S. Pat. 6985589 B2).

With respect to claim 21, Begis discloses an apparatus for use at a local site (See column 5 line 63 to column 6 line 20 and Figures 3A-B of Begis for reference to an apparatus as shown in block diagram 300 used locally). Begis also discloses an adapter configured to couple the apparatus to a voice network (See column 5 line 63 to column 6 line 20 and Figures 3A-B of Begis for reference to switch 310, which is an adapter coupling the apparatus 300 to a PSTN 320, which is a voice network). Begis further discloses an input key coupled to the adapter and configured, upon activation, to initiate a negotiation procedure to procure an access code via the

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voice network (See column 4 line 62 to column 5 line 45 and Figure 2 of Begis for reference to a "SEND" button, which is an input key coupled to the switch 310, that upon activation initiates a procedure to receive an IP address, which is a type of access code, via the PSTN 320). Begis also discloses a network interface configured to couple the apparatus to a data network to provide a data network session of a data conference based at least in part on the access code (See column 5 line 63 to column 6 line 20, column 4 line 62 to column 5 line 45, and Figures 2 and 3A-B of Begis for reference to the apparatus 300 having a network interface to the Internet 315, which is a data network, and for reference to providing a data network sessions including collaboration software applications, joint web browsing software application, video, and network games, based on using the procured IP address to set up a connection). Begis further discloses an image processor coupled to the network interface and configured to communicate image data with the network interface (See column 3 lines 39-58 and Figures 3A-B of Begis for reference to a computer 325 being coupled to the network interface through the switch 310, and for reference to using software on the computer 325 for video conference, meaning the computer 325 must include an image processor to communicate image data with the network interface). While Begis does disclose receiving image data at the image processor over the data network from a remote data conferencing appliance at a remote site and controlling a display device based in part on the image data (See column 3 lines 39-58 and column 5 lines 40-45 of Begis for reference to the computer 325 receiving image data of a video conference over

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the internet from a remote device and for reference to displaying the data at a display device of the computer 325), Begis does not specifically disclose that the display device comprises a projector. Begis also does not disclose a housing adapted to incorporate the adapter, the input key, the network interface, the image processor, and the projector into an integrated data conferencing appliance.

With respect to claim 29, Begis disclose a method (See column 4 line 62 to column 5 line 45 and Figure 2 of Begis for reference to a method). Begis also discloses coupling, by an adapter of an appliance, the apparatus to a voice network (See column 5 line 63 to column 6 line 20 and Figures 3A-B of Begis for reference to switch 310, which is an adapter coupling the appliance 300 to a PSTN 320, which is a voice network). Begis further discloses receiving an input from an input key of the appliance and initiating a negotiation procedure to procure an access code based at least in part on receiving the input (See column 4 line 62 to column 5 line 45 and Figure 2 of Begis for reference to a "SEND" button, which is an input key coupled to the switch 310, that upon activation initiates a procedure to receive an IP address, which is a type of access code, via the PSTN 320). Begis also discloses providing, by a network interface of the appliance, a data network session of a data conference over a data network based at least in part on the access code (See column 5 line 63 to column 6 line 20, column 4 line 62 to column 5 line 45, and Figures 2 and 3A-B of Begis for reference to the appliance 300 having a network interface to the Internet 315, which is a data network, and for reference to providing a data network sessions including collaboration software applications, joint web

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browsing software application, video, and network games, based on using the procured IP address to set up a connection). Begis further discloses communicating, by an image processor, image data from a remote data conferencing appliance at a remote site with the network interface (**See column 3 lines 39-58 and column 5 lines 40-45 of Begis for reference to the computer 325 receiving image data of a video conference over the internet from a remote device and for reference to displaying the data at a display device of the computer 325).** Begis does not disclose that the appliance is an integrated data conferencing appliance. Begis also does not disclose controlling projector incorporated into the appliance to project an image based in part on the image data transmitted over the data network from the remote site.

With respect to claims 21, 29, and 31, Morley et al., in the field of communications, discloses a projector for displaying an image with the projector being part of an integrated data conferencing appliance housing an adapter, an input key, a network interface, an image processor, and the projector (See column 8 lines 43-58, column 20 lines 23-41, and Figure 2 of Morley et al. for reference to a theater manager 132 that includes in a housing interfaces to a storage device and managing device, which are a network adapter and interface, a control panel, which includes input keys, a playback device and decoder, which are an image processor, and a projector). Morley et al. also discloses the projector displaying images received from a device that is remotely located (**See column 8 lines 16-58 of Morley et al. for reference to the theater manager 132 receiving image data from a**

central hub 102, which is a device located remotely from the theater manager 132). Including the apparatus components in a single integrated data conferencing appliance has the advantage of allowing all the necessary device components to be purchased in a single, self-contained unit, to simplify number of devices needed to set up a data conferencing network.

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, when presented with the work of Morley et al., to combine including apparatus components in a single integrated data conferencing appliance, as suggested by Morley et al., with the system and method of Begis, with the motivation being to allow all the necessary device components to be purchased in a single, self-contained unit, to simplify number of devices needed to set up a data conferencing network.

With respect to claims 22, 24-25 and 28, Begis discloses that the apparatus is configured to be locally coupled to an external image source, an external display device, and an external speakerphone (See column 3 lines 39-58, column 5 line 63 to column 6 line 29, and Figures 3A-B of Begis for reference to a computer 325, which acts as an image source and display device for video conferencing, being coupled to the apparatus 300, and for reference to a telephone 110, which is a speaker phone, being coupled to the apparatus).

With respect to claim 23, Begis discloses receiving image data at the image processor from the network interface and controlling a display device based in part on the image data (See column 3 lines 39-58 and column 5 lines 40-45 of Begis for

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reference to receiving image data of a video conference at the computer 325 and display the data at a display device of the computer 325).

With respect to claim 26, Begis discloses that the adapter is configured to couple the apparatus to the voice network to provide a voice call session of the data conference (See column 4 line 62 to column 5 line 45 and Figures 2 and 3A-B of Begis for reference to the switch 310 coupling the apparatus 300 to the PSTN 320 to provide a voice call session of the data conference).

With respect to claim 27, Begis discloses that the data network session comprises transmission and/or reception of image data (See column 3 lines 39-58 of Begis for reference to a video conferencing data session, which includes both transmission and reception of image data).

With respect to claims 30 and 32, Begis discloses transmitting and receiving, by the network interface, image data from an external image source locally coupled to the apparatus (See column 3 lines 39-58 of Begis for reference to a video conferencing data session, which includes both transmission and reception of image data received at the switch 310 from the computer 325).

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed 12/5/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to Applicant's argument that the combination of Begis and Morley et al. does not disclose an integrated data conferencing appliance as claimed, the Examiner respectfully disagrees. Begis, as shown in the rejections above, discloses a local data conferencing appliance that receives data, including image data, from a remote appliance and displays the data at the local data conferencing appliance. The difference between Begis and the claimed invention is that Begis does not disclose that the image data is displayed by a projector included in a housing incorporating all parts of the data conferencing device at the local site. Morley et al. is used to show a teaching of the claimed elements Begis is lacking. Specifically, Morley et al. discloses a theater subsystem device having a projector included in a local housing incorporating a network adapter and interface, input keys, an image processor and the projector. Further Morley et al. discloses that the theater subsystem receives image data from a central hub facility that is located at a remote site from the theater subsystem. Therefore, the combined teachings of Begis and Morley et al. do disclose the claimed invention. Further Begis and Morley et al. both teach systems where image data is sent from a remote device over a network to a local device where the image data is displayed. Since Begis and Morley et al. deal with similar problems there is motivation to combine the teachings of the reference.

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason E. Mattis whose telephone number is (571) 272-3154. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8AM-5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy Vu can be reached on (571) 272-3155. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

jem



HUY D. VU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600